

Application No.: 10/634,269

Amendment After Final dated: January 16, 2007

Reply to Office Action dated: November 14, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Claims 19 and 27 are amended to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-4, 10-13 and 19-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Detjens et al., hereinafter ("Detjens"), (US Pat. No. 6,704,163). Claims 5-9 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Detjens (US 6,704,163) in view of Cubero Pitel, (US Pat. No. 6,160,239).

Applicants respectfully submit the cited references do not teach, suggest or describe "[a] *first component having a first cavity to be coupled to an arm portion having an arm cavity via a pin element welded between said first component and said arm portion...*" (e.g., claim 1).

The Office Action asserts Detjens shows (citing Figures 1-4) a system for a magnetic head arm assembly comprising: a first component (20) having a first cavity (22) to be coupled to an arm portion (14) having an arm cavity (32) via a pin element (16) welded between said first component and said arm portion. See Office Action dated 6/19/2006, paragraph 3. Applicants disagree.

First, Applicants disagree with the Office Action's assertion that element 14 is the same as the "arm portion" and element 20 is the same as the "first component" as described in embodiments of the present application. However, even if Applicants were to assume *arguendo* these assertions in the Office Action were true, the current rejection would still be inadequate.

This is so because Figure 1 clearly shows the cited "tower[s]" 16 as extensions *protruding from* cited element 14. They are not inserted *through* element 14. These towers 16 extending from cited element 14 are only (allegedly) *inserted* through cited element 20. Moreover, the cited towers 16 are not inserted through the cited "arm registering hole" 32 of

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element 14 either. Therefore, in sum, even if the cited element "towers" 16 are, as alleged, inserted through the alleged "first component" 20, they are not inserted through either the cited "arm registering hole 32" of the alleged "arm portion" 14, or any other portion of the alleged "arm portion" 14.

Claim 1 specifically describes an embodiment *wherein a pin element couples a first component having a first cavity and an arm portion having an arm cavity*. In order to support a proper rejection of claim 1, the cited reference must show at least these features. Detjens does not.

The Office Action further asserts the word "coupled" eliminates a need that a pin element be inserted through an element. *See* Office Action dated 11/14/2006, paragraph 16. Applicants disagree for at least the following reasons. First, the Office Action's assumptions regarding the operation of a "pin" are inaccurate. As argued above, the cited "towers" 16 are merely *extensions of element 14*, and are *not separate* from element 14. Therefore, these extensions only require one opening, (allegedly) those of element 20 (as shown in Figure 1 of the Detjens reference). A pin, by definition, is different; it is a *wholly separate component* that requires an opening *on each* of a plurality of different components to be connected (e.g., the "cavities" as described in the embodiment of claim 1) in order to operate. It would be easily understood by one of ordinary skill in the art that the cited elements 16 (the "towers") of Detjens are not "pins". Applicants maintain the cited reference fails to describe the relevant limitations for at least two reasons: 1) it fails to describe an embodiment where a first component and an arm portion are coupled by a pin and 2) it fails to describe an embodiment where the pin is inserted through a cavity of the arm portion.

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Also, the Office Action improperly singles out the word "coupled". One limitation of a claim should be read in light of others. Claim 1, for example, describes coupling a first component and an arm portion, *via welding a pin between the first component having a first cavity and the arm portion having an arm cavity*. The cited Detjens reference fails to describe at least these limitations of claim 1 for at least the reasons described above.

Cubero Pitel fails to make up for the deficiencies of Detjens. Cubero Pitel is directed toward a laser soldering procedure applicable to the joining of pins over printed circuit boards. However, it does not describe at least these relevant limitations of claim 1 anywhere.

Since at least these features of claim 1 are missing from the cited references, claim 1 is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Independent claims 10, 19 and 27 contain similar allowable limitations. Claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-26, and 28-32 are allowable as depending from the allowable base claims 1, 10, 19 and 27. Based on the arguments above, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 1-32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) are respectfully requested.

It is believed that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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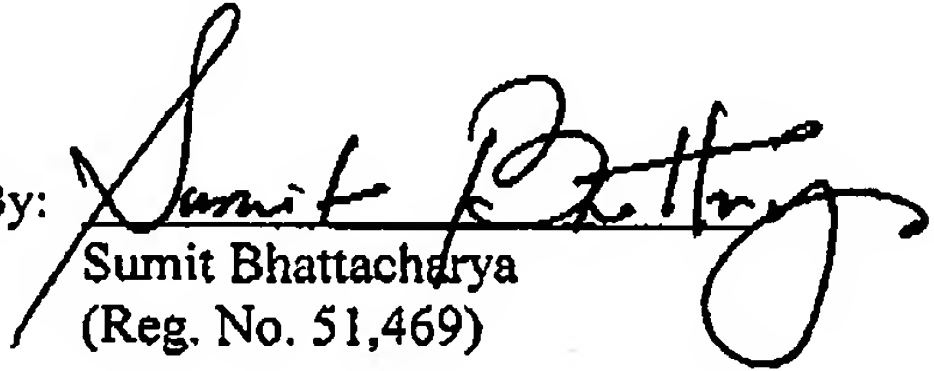
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Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 16, 2007

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